

CHAPTER X.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

THE earliest balance-sheet of the district as at present constituted is for 1863-64. Though since 1863 many account changes have been made, the different items can in most cases be brought under corresponding heads in the form now in use. Exclusive of £527 (Rs. 5270), the adjustment on account of alienated lands, the total transactions entered in the district balance-sheet for 1881-82 amounted under receipts to £261,590 (Rs. 26,15,900) against £300,223 (Rs. 30,02,230) in 1863-64, and under charges to £266,577 (Rs. 26,65,770) against £313,396 (Rs. 31,33,960). Leaving aside departmental miscellaneous receipts and payments in return for services rendered such as post and telegraph receipts, the revenue for 1881-82 under all heads, imperial, provincial, local, and municipal, came to £143,975 (Rs. 14,39,750),¹ or on a population of 421,840 an individual share of 6s. 9d. (Rs. 3 $\frac{3}{8}$). During the last twenty years the following changes have taken place under the chief heads of receipts and charges.

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District Balance
Sheet.

Land Revenue receipts, which form 48·35 per cent of £207,400 (Rs. 20,74,000), the entire revenue of the district, have risen from £65,942 to £100,283 (Rs. 6,59,420-Rs. 10,02,830). The increase is chiefly due to the introduction of revised rates of assessments under the survey settlement. Land Revenue charges have risen from £12,861 to £18,332 (Rs. 1,28,610 - Rs. 1,83,320). This is partly due to the increase in the number and salaries of revenue officers, and partly to temporary charges in connection with the revenue survey establishment.

The following statement shows the land revenue collected in each of the twenty years ending the 31st of March 1882 :

LAND REVENUE, 1862-63 TO 1881-82.

| YEAR. | £. | YEAR. | £. | YEAR. | £. | YEAR. | £. |
|-------------|--------|-------------|--------|-------------|--------|-------------|---------|
| 1862-63 ... | 65,942 | 1867-68 ... | 74,103 | 1872-73 ... | 81,549 | 1877-78 ... | 81,214 |
| 1863-64 ... | 70,515 | 1868-69 ... | 74,046 | 1873-74 ... | 84,254 | 1878-79 ... | 93,950 |
| 1864-65 ... | 62,837 | 1869-70 ... | 72,231 | 1874-75 ... | 89,643 | 1879-80 ... | 85,760 |
| 1865-66 ... | 75,222 | 1870-71 ... | 75,761 | 1875-76 ... | 83,337 | 1880-81 ... | 80,696 |
| 1866-67 ... | 60,772 | 1871-72 ... | 80,921 | 1876-77 ... | 81,964 | 1881-82 ... | 100,283 |

Stamps receipts have risen from £5757 to £6834 (Rs. 57,570-Rs. 68,340) and stamp expenditure from £183 to £226 (Rs. 1830-

Stamps.

¹ This total is made of the following items: £121,446 land revenue, stamps, excise, assessed taxes, registration and education; £10,546 salt; and £11,983 local and municipal funds; total £143,975.

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Excise.

Rs. 2260). The increase under both heads is owing to changes in the law and administration of the stamp revenue.

Excise receipts have risen from £5137 to £11,164 (Rs. 51,370 - Rs. 1,11,640) and charges from £4 to £637 (Rs. 40 - Rs. 6370). The increase in the excise revenue is partly due to greater competition for the liquor farms and partly to the imposition of a separate tree-tax for the right to tap cocoanut, brab, and bastard sago-palms.

There were in 1881-82 four licensed shops for the sale of European and foreign liquor, two at Kárwár, and one in each of the towns of Kumta and Sirsi. Each shop paid a fee of £5 (Rs. 50). In 1881-82 the amount realized on account of fees levied on shops came to £20 (Rs. 200).

The total revenue from the farms and tapping fees was, in 1881-82 £10,860 (Rs. 108,600), of which £6605 (Rs. 66,050) were realized from the farms of 187 shops and £4255 (Rs. 42,550) represented the tapping fees of 8285 trees.

In the coast sub-divisions of Kárwár, Ankola, Kumta, and Honávar, country liquor is manufactured from cocoa-palm juice. In the upland sub-divisions of Supa, Yellápur, Sirsi, and Siddápur, liquor is manufactured mostly from sugarcane molasses or *jágri* flavoured with the bark of the *hevra* tree. Toddy is drunk to a small extent in Siddápur and parts of Sirsi and Supa where the *baini* trees or bastard sago-palms, *Caryota urens*, in the evergreen forests are tapped. The manufacture of liquor from the cashew fruit is also carried on in the coast sub-divisions, and from the flower of the *ippi*, *Bassia latifolia*, in Sirsi. The quantity made from the last two sources is very small and is mostly for medicinal purposes, cashew and bassia wine being used both internally and externally in cases of cold and of rheumatic pains. The bark of the *hevra* tree which is used to flavour the local rum or sugarcane spirits, is brought from Dhárwár and other neighbouring districts. Palm-juice is drunk both fresh fermented and distilled. The fresh juice is also made into molasses. The chief liquor-drinking classes are Christians, Dáldis, Gudigars, Khárvís, Khánde-Khárvís, Halepáiks, Padtis, Árers, Gongdikars, Chandhris, Kaláls, Waddars, Dombars, Kalávants, and Mhárs Chámbhárs and other impure classes. The use of liquor is made to yield revenue in two ways. Licenses are granted to the makers and sellers of spirits and of toddy; and licenses are granted to persons who wish to tap palm trees. The system of levying a fee on the making of spirits and toddy was introduced in 1802-3 (*Fusli* 1212), when North and South Kánara formed one collectorate. The farm was every year sold for each division to the highest bidder. The farmer sublet his farm to different persons and gave them permits allowing them to make and sell spirits and toddy. In 1861-62 farms were sold by the Madras Government for five years for each division separately. In 1866-67, when the five years' farm came to an end, the system of selling each shop separately was introduced under the Bombay laws and rules. At present (1882) one liquor-shop is generally fixed for one large village or for a group of hamlets, and the right to sell spirits and toddy in each shop, or in

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each group, or in each sub-division, according to circumstances, is sold by public auction to the highest bidder. As regards the revenue from palm-tapping licenses, before August 1880 no fee was levied for the right to tap. Every person was supposed to have the privilege of tapping palm-trees on lands for which he paid assessment. There was no rule against using the juice of these trees for home purposes, but the holder could not give away the juice or sell it to any one but a spirit and toddy farmer. No tapping fee was levied on liquor-yielding trees on Government lands, of which the commonest is the *baini* or bastard sago-palm which grows in large numbers in the evergreen forests or *káns* in Sirsi. The privilege of tapping was sold by auction along with the privilege of gathering fruit, honey, and other forest produce every year, and the proceeds were credited to forest revenue as the *káns* being unassessed Government waste formed part of the reserved or protected forests. When these farms were bought by any person other than a liquor-farmer, the purchaser could not sell his surplus palm-juice to any person except the liquor-farmer, though he could use as much as he liked for his home consumption. He was also forbidden to make spirits from palm-juice tapped in his own land. Under the new system, which was introduced in August 1880, no tree may be tapped without a license. No license to tap is issued for less than ten trees. A license to tap entitles the holder to sell the juice drawn by him, whether fermented or unfermented, only at the foot of the tree. A tax at the rate of 6s. (Rs. 3) for each tree licensed to be tapped is levied for cocoanut and brab trees and at the rate of 3s. (Rs. 1½) for date and bastard sago-palms. This tax is recoverable in three instalments. The privilege of tapping trees on Government lands is farmed, and the farmer is required to pay the authorized tree-tax on the number of trees tapped in addition to the sum offered for the farm. The privilege to make spirits from palm-juice and to sell palm-juice and spirits at shops is sold, the Collector being allowed discretion to sell the shops separately, or by sub-divisions, or in groups, as he may find most advantageous.

The only intoxicating drugs sold in the district are *gánja* and *bháng*. They are imported from Bellári and other parts of the country above the Sahyádris. The number of shops licensed to sell intoxicating drugs was fifteen and the revenue realized was £278 (Rs. 2780). The consumption of *gánja* and *bháng* was 8½ tons (228 *mans*). In 1881-82 the total excise revenue from all sources was £11,164 (Rs. 1,11,640) and the cost of establishment in the same year was £637 (Rs. 6370).¹

Law and Justice receipts have fallen from £1651 to £794 (Rs. 16,510 - Rs. 7940), and expenditure has risen from £11,449 to £13,113 (Rs. 1,14,490 - Rs. 1,31,130). The rise in expenditure is due to an increase in the pay of officers and establishment. The increase is also due to the system under which a portion of the salaries of the revenue establishment is debited to the head of Law and Justice.

Law and Justice.

¹ These figures have been taken from the 1881-82 Ábkári Report.

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Forest receipts have risen from £33,844 to £41,350 (Rs. 3,38,440-Rs. 4,13,500), and charges from £3222 to £24,327 (Rs. 32,220-Rs. 2,43,270). The increase in charges is partly due to the increased strength of the forest establishment, and partly to large expenditure on account of felling timber, planting, surveying, demarcating, and and road-making.¹

Assessed Taxes.

The following table shows the amounts realized from the different assessed taxes levied between 1862 and 1882. Owing to the variety of rates and incidence it is difficult to make any satisfactory comparison of the results:

KANARA ASSESSED TAXES, 1862-1881.

| YEAR. | Amount | YEAR. | Amount | YEAR. | Amount | YEAR. | Amount |
|--------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|
| <i>Income Tax.</i> | £. | <i>License Tax.</i> | £. | <i>Income Tax.</i> | £. | <i>License Tax.</i> | £. |
| 1862-63 ... | 2163 | 1867-68 ... | 2108 | 1869-70 ... | 2410 | 1878-79 ... | 6395 |
| 1863-64 ... | 1072 | <i>Profession &</i> | | 1870-71 ... | 2312 | 1879-80 ... | 6508 |
| 1864-65 ... | 1465 | <i>Trade Tax.</i> | | 1871-72 ... | 2022 | 1880-81 ... | 2956 |
| 1865-66 ... | 732 | 1868-69 ... | 953 | 1872-73 ... | 917 | 1881-82 ... | 1910 |
| | | 1869-70 ... | 63 | | | | |

Customs and
Salt.

Customs and Salt receipts have fallen from £61,336 to £30,790 (Rs. 6,13,360-Rs. 3,07,900). The decrease in the revenue is chiefly due to the abolition of the land customs and to the substitution of the excise system in place of the monopoly system for the sale of salt. A large sum was also realized by sale of salt in store at the end of 1863-64. The increase in the charges from £4577 to £4722 (Rs. 45,770-Rs. 47,220) is due to the revision of the establishment.

Military.

Military charges have fallen from £7076 to £958 (Rs. 70,760-Rs. 9580). This represents payments made on account of pension to retired soldiers. The large expenditure of £7076 (Rs. 70,760) in 1863-64 was due to the presence of a military guard for the custody of convicts employed on public works.

Post.

Postal receipts have risen from £960 to £10,629 (Rs. 9600-Rs. 1,06,290), and charges from £745 to £3866 (Rs. 7450-Rs. 38,660). The receipts and charges shown in the 1881-82 balance-sheet, besides letters, books, and parcels, include money received and paid under the money-order system. The increase in the 1881-82 revenue is also due to the sale proceeds of service stamps credited to the postal department.

Telegraph.

Telegraph receipts have risen from £70 to £800 (Rs. 700-Rs. 8000), and charges from £65 to £807 (Rs. 650-Rs. 8070).

Registration.

Registration is a new head. The 1881-82 receipts amounted to £1099 (Rs. 10,990) and the expenditure to £848 (Rs. 8480).

Education.

Education receipts have risen from £48 to £395 (Rs. 480-Rs. 3950), and charges from £17 to £1311 (Rs. 170-Rs. 13,110). The increase is chiefly due to the establishment of new English schools.

¹ Details are given in Part I. page 31.

Police charges have risen from £12,750 to £12,949 (Rs. 1,27,500-Rs. 1,29,490). The increase is due to the reorganization of the police force.

Medical charges have risen from £1883 to £2306 (Rs. 18,830-Rs. 23,060).

The 1881-82 receipts £320 (Rs. 3200) against £71 (Rs. 710) in 1863-64 represent the earnings of the Kárwár jail. The charges have fallen from £4172 to £987 (Rs. 41,720-Rs. 9870).

Transfer receipts have fallen from £110,510 to £48,920 (Rs. 11,05,100-Rs. 4,86,760), and transfer charges from £146,598 to £145,229 (Rs. 14,65,980-Rs. 14,52,290).

In the following balance-sheets for 1863-64 and 1881-82 the figures shown in black type on both sides are book adjustments. On the receipt side the item £527 (Rs. 5270) represents the additional revenue the district would yield had none of its land been alienated. On the debit side the same items, shown under allowances and assignments, included £27 (Rs. 270) the rental of lands granted to the Bilgi Ráni during her lifetime and £500 (Rs. 5000), former grants continued to certain temples and mosques for religious and charitable purposes:

KÁNARA BALANCE SHEETS, 1863-64 AND 1881-82.

| RECEIPTS. | | | CHARGES. | | |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|--------------------|----------|----------|
| Head. | 1863-64. | 1881-82. | Head. | 1863-64. | 1881-82. |
| Land | £ 76,515 | £ 100,933 | Land | 12,861 | 18,382 |
| Stamps | 5757 | 527 | Stamps | 183 | 226 |
| Excise | 5137 | 6834 | Excise | 4 | 324 |
| Justice | 1651 | 10,923 | Justice { Civil | 7180 | 7970 |
| Forests | 38,844 | 794 | Justice { Criminal | 4209 | 5148 |
| Assessed Taxes | 1072 | 41,350 | Forests | 3222 | 24,827 |
| Miscellaneous | 65 | 1910 | Assessed Taxes | 2 | ... |
| Interest | 72 | 270 | Allowances | 2804 | 2996 |
| Customs and Opium | 61,336 | 167 | Pensions | 442 | 527 |
| Salt | 432 | 80,623 | Ecclesiastical | ... | 1610 |
| Marine | 983 | ... | Refunds | 183 | 22 |
| Public Works | 1003 | 5440 | Miscellaneous | 153 | 1804 |
| Military | 960 | 454 | Customs | 4577 | 851 |
| Post | 70 | 10,620 | Salt | ... | 3238 |
| Telegraph | 48 | 800 | Marine | 1487 | 1484 |
| Registration | 105 | 1099 | Public Works | 102,722 | 27,454 |
| Education | 71 | 385 | Military | 7076 | 958 |
| Police | ... | 287 | Post | 745 | 18 |
| Medical | 71 | 60 | Telegraph | 86 | 3866 |
| Jails | 2 | 320 | Registration | ... | 807 |
| Books | ... | 14 | Education | 17 | 548 |
| Minor Departments | ... | ... | Police | 12,750 | 1811 |
| Total | 189,713 | 212,670 | Medical | 1883 | 12,949 |
| Transfer Items. | | | Jails | 4172 | 2306 |
| Deposits and Loans | 43,033 | 28,367 | Printing | ... | 987 |
| Cash Remittances | 64,747 | 8191 | Contributions | ... | 10 |
| Pension Fund | ... | 306 | Minor Departments | ... | 1848 |
| Local Funds | 2730 | 12,056 | Total | 166,798 | 459 |
| | 110,510 | 43,020 | Transfer Items. | | |
| Grand Total | 300,223 | 261,590 | Deposits and Loans | 42,722 | 25,939 |
| | | 527 | Cash Remittances | 97,674 | 113,212 |
| | | | Interest | ... | 76 |
| | | | Local Funds | 6202 | 6002 |
| | | | | 146,598 | 145,229 |
| | | | Grand Total | 313,206 | 266,577 |
| | | | | | 527 |

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Medical.

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Local Funds.

REVENUE OTHER THAN IMPERIAL.

District local funds have been collected since 1863 to promote rural education and supply roads, wells, rest-houses, dispensaries, and other useful works. In 1881-82 the receipts amounted to £10,505 (Rs. 1,05,050) and the expenditure to £10,829 (Rs. 1,08,290). The local fund revenue is derived from three sources, a special cess of one-sixteenth in addition to the land tax, the proceeds of certain subordinate local funds, and certain miscellaneous items. In 1881-82 the special land cess, of which two-thirds are set apart as a road fund and the rest as a school fund, yielded a revenue of £5695 (Rs. 56,950). The subordinate funds, including a toll fund, a ferry fund, a cattle-pound fund, and a school-fee fund, yielded £2588 (Rs. 25,880). Government and private subscriptions amounted to £1838 (Rs. 18,380); and miscellaneous receipts, including certain items of land revenue, to £383 (Rs. 3830). This revenue is administered by district and sub-divisional committees partly of official and partly of private members. The district committees consist of the Collector, the assistant and deputy collector, the executive engineer, and the education inspector as official, and the proprietor of an alienated village and six landholders as non-official, members. The sub-divisional committees consist of an assistant collector, the *mámlatdár*, a public works officer, and the deputy education inspector as official, and the proprietor of an alienated village and three landholders as non-official, members. The sub-divisional committees bring their requirements to the notice of the district committee who prepare the budget.

For administrative purposes the district local funds are divided into two sections, one set apart for public works, the other for instruction. The receipts and disbursements during the year 1881-82 were :

KANARA LOCAL FUNDS, 1881-82.

PUBLIC WORKS.

| RECEIPTS. | | Amount. | CHARGES. | | Amount. |
|-------------------------|-----|---------|----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| | | £ | | | £ |
| Balance | ... | 1491 | Establishment | ... | 972 |
| Two-thirds of Land Cess | ... | 3797 | New Works | ... | 2174 |
| Other Cesses | ... | 266 | Repairs | ... | 2912 |
| Tolls | ... | 435 | Contribution to P. W. Department | ... | 367 |
| Ferries | ... | 1525 | Medical | ... | 873 |
| Cattle-pounds | ... | 298 | Miscellaneous | ... | 263 |
| Contributions | ... | 706 | | | |
| Miscellaneous | ... | 97 | | | |
| Quarry Fees | ... | 9 | Balance | ... | 1150 |
| Total | ... | 8714 | | | 8714 |

INSTRUCTION.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|------------|------|--------------------|-----|------|
| Balance | ... | 590 | Establishment | ... | 50 |
| One-third of Land Cess | ... | 1898 | Supervision | ... | 36 |
| School-fee Fund | ... | 330 | School Charges | ... | 2936 |
| | Government | 926 | School-houses, New | ... | 109 |
| Contribution | Municipal | 66 | Repairs | ... | 124 |
| | Private | 50 | Miscellaneous | ... | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | 12 | | | |
| | | | Balance | ... | 607 |
| Total | ... | 3872 | Total | ... | 3872 |

Since 1863 the following local fund works have been carried out. To improve communications 761 miles of road with eighty-six bridges and culverts have been either made, cleared, or repaired, and portions planted with trees. To improve the water-supply, 109 wells and sixty-one ponds have been made or repaired. To help village instruction, thirty-six schools, and, for the comfort of travellers, fifty-five rest-houses have been either built or repaired. Besides these works nine dispensaries, forty cattle-pounds, twenty-five staging bungalows, and thirty-five miscellaneous public works have been made and repaired.

In 1881-82, under the provisions of the Bombay District Municipal Act VI. of 1873, there were five town municipalities each administered by a body of commissioners with the Collector as president and the assistant or deputy collector in charge of the sub-division as vice-president. In 1881-82 the district municipal revenue amounted to £3822 (Rs. 38,220), of which £1833 (Rs. 18,330) were recovered from octroi dues, £727 (Rs. 7270) from house-tax, £255 (Rs. 2550) from toll and wheel taxes, £320 (Rs. 3200) from assessed taxes, and £687 (Rs. 6870) from miscellaneous sources.

The following statement gives for each municipality the receipts, charges, and incidence of taxation during the year ending the 31st March of 1882:

KĀNARA MUNICIPAL DETAILS, 1881-82.

| NAME. | DATE. | PEOPLE. | RECEIPTS. | | | | | TOTAL. | INCIDENCE. |
|-------------|-------------------|---------|-----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------|------------|
| | | | Octroi. | House Tax. | Tolls and Wheel Tax. | Assessed Taxes. | Miscellaneous. | | |
| Kārwār ... | 30th June 1884 | 13,761 | £ 363 | £ 235 | £ 77 | £ 115 | £ 246 | £ 1036 | £ 1 6 |
| Kumta ... | 31st July 1887... | 10,629 | £ 636 | £ 209 | £ 37 | £ 8 | £ 117 | £ 1007 | £ 1 10½ |
| Gokarn ... | 1st April 1879... | 4207 | £ 38 | £ 50 | £ 2 | £ 51 | £ 18 | £ 157 | £ 0 9 |
| Sirsi ... | 1st July 1886 ... | 5633 | £ 658 | £ 109 | £ 34 | £ 83 | £ 248 | £ 1133 | £ 4 ½ |
| Haliyāl ... | 23th March 1865 | 5527 | £ 140 | £ 124 | £ 105 | £ 63 | £ 58 | £ 490 | £ 1 9½ |
| Total ... | | 39,167 | 1833 | 727 | 255 | 320 | 687 | 3822 | |

KĀNARA MUNICIPAL DETAILS, 1881-82—continued.

| NAME. | CHARGES. | | | | | | | TOTAL. |
|---------|----------|---------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|----------------|--------|
| | Staff. | Safety. | Health. | Schools. | Works. | | Miscellaneous. | |
| | | | | | Original. | Repairs. | | |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Kārwar | 123 | 43 | 364 | 85 | 19 | 133 | 296 | 1033 |
| Kumta | 110 | 105 | 367 | 120 | 39 | 55 | 110 | 906 |
| Gokarn | 17 | 7 | 37 | ... | ... | 26 | 9 | 96 |
| Sirsi | 121 | 65 | 544 | 72 | 88 | 87 | 180 | 1107 |
| Haliyāl | 141 | 59 | 250 | ... | 6 | 43 | 18 | 517 |
| Total | 612 | 279 | 1582 | 227 | 151 | 344 | 563 | 3659 |

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Local Funds.

Municipalities.